

Message Text

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PAGE 01 MOSCOW 06465 101114Z

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 NSAE-00 NSCE-00 SSO-00

USIE-00 INRE-00 PM-03 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 INR-07 /045 W

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O R 101042Z MAY 75

FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 53

INFO AMCONSUL LENINGRAD

C O N F I D E N T I A L MOSCOW 6465

E.O. 11652 GDS

TAGS: PFOR, PDIP, MPOL, UR, US

SUBJ: MOORING AREA FOR US NAVAL SHIP VISIT TO LENINGRAD

1. ADMIRAL LEONENKOV, COMMANDER OF LENINGRAD NAVAL BASE, VOLUNTEERED TO CONSUL GENERAL NEUBERT AT MAY 9 RECEPTION THAT WEATHER FORECAST FOR COMING WEEK INDICATES POSSIBILITY OF EAST WIND WHICH WOULD REDUCE WATER DEPTH AT GAVAN. THIS COULD NECESSITATE, HE SAID, CHANGE TO OPPOSITE MOORING SITE, I.E. COMMERCIAL PORT AREA OR OTHER SIDE OF HARBOR WHICH IS VIRTUALLY ISOLATED FROM VIEW.

2. AT CONSUL GENERAL NEUBERT'S SUGGESTION WE HAVE THEREFORE NOTIFIED SOVIET NAVY MAIN STAFF AS WELL AS MFA THAT IF WEATHER CONDITIONS PRECLUDE USE OF GAVAN, THEN WE WOULD EXPECT NEVA RIVER MOORING.

3. SOVIET MAIN NAVY STAFF RESPONDED 10 MAY THROUGH MOD FOREIGN LAISON OFFICE (UVS) THAT IT WAS AWARE OF OUR CONCERNS AND THAT ALL NECESSARY MEASURES WOULD BE TAKEN TO INSURE THAT US SHIP VISIT WAS SUCCESSFUL. WHEN QUERIED SPECIFICALLY AS TO WHETHER THESE INCLUDED INSURING GOOD VISIBILITY OF OUR SHIPS, UVS OFFICER REPLIED THAT "HE ASSUMED SO," BUT COULD GIVE NO DEFINITE ANSWER AS TO WHETHER SHIPS WOULD BE BERTHED IN NEVA RIVER.

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: MILITARY VISITS, NAVAL SHIPS, PORT CALLS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 10 MAY 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: ShawDG
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975MOSCOW06465
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750164-0952
From: MOSCOW
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750563/aaaacevb.tel
Line Count: 52
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 1
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: ShawDG
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 18 JUN 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <18 JUN 2003 by izenbei0>; APPROVED <21 OCT 2003 by ShawDG>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
05 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: MOORING AREA FOR US NAVAL SHIP VISIT TO LENINGRAD
TAGS: PFOR, PDIP, MPOL, UR, US
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006